

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF VIRGINIA -- 2000 SESSION

ENROLLED

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 384

Endorsing the recommendations of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) regarding the use of antibiotics.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, March 6, 2000

Agreed to by the Senate, March 2, 2000

WHEREAS, antibiotic-resistant infections are more likely to produce adverse health outcomes and are more costly to treat than susceptible infections; and

WHEREAS, the widespread use of antibiotics has increased the type and incidence of bacteria that are resistant to treatment by antibiotics; and

WHEREAS, antibiotic resistance is caused by the overuse of antibiotics in general and the overuse of selected agents in particular; and

WHEREAS, over the past five years, the rate of penicillin resistance increased by more than 300 percent, and the rate of cefotaxime resistance increased by more than 1,000 percent; and

WHEREAS, patients infected with antibiotic-resistant strains of bacteria can require hospitalization when otherwise unnecessary and be subject to an increased rate of death; and

WHEREAS, antibiotic resistance increases pharmaceutical costs through inappropriate prescribing of antibiotic agents and increases total health care costs through the additional hospitalizations and other forms of additional medical care required in the treatment of antibiotic-resistant strains of bacteria; and

WHEREAS, the federal CDC and the AAP have developed recommendations for health care professionals regarding best practices for the judicious use of antibiotics; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the recommendations of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) regarding the use of antibiotics be endorsed; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Commissioner of Health be requested to urge each health care professional and each managed care plan operating in Virginia to adopt the CDC/AAP recommendations in their practices and their formularies; and, be it

RESOLVED FINALLY, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates transmit copies of this resolution to the Commissioner of Health and the Executive Director of the Joint Commission on Health Care, requesting that the Commissioner forward copies of this resolution to each local area health director and that the Executive Director forward copies of this resolution to appropriate health care organizations along with the request that the information be used to raise public awareness about antibiotic resistance in order that all may be apprised of the sense of the General Assembly in this matter.

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